

The Nazi Party created new institutions on top of the state ones, without replacing them. Like the German Inspector of German Roads, which shared responsibility with Minister of Post and Transport. This created a lot of chaos. The Intentionalist View is that it was deliberate, as it centralized control on Hitler. The Structuralists say it was unintended. By 1939, every public service member had to be a Party member as well. New departments were created, like the Deputy of Internal Party Affairs.

The SS was led by Himmler in 1929. Special Security (SD) was merged with the SS and the Police to create a police state. Gestapo was used to "weed out the enemies of the state". The SS were the protectors of the race ideology.

Propaganda

Goebbels was the head of propaganda from 1930. It was important because it was trying to bring the political attitudes of the state together and eliminate contradictions.

Expansive cars and planes moved Hitler around.

Radio - Goebbels brought all broadcast under control and censorship. 1932 - 25% of German homes with radios, in 1939 - 70%. It provided the most permanent impression of the Fuhrer.

Press - 1933 - Editor's law. It made all editors responsible for the contents of their papers, which made them edit it themselves to please the Propaganda Ministry. Sterile journalism.

Propaganda also became the Ministry of Popular Enlightenment.

All people involved in the cultural activities had to join the Reich. Controlling German culture was a way of achieving censorship and indoctrination.

Healthy Aryan Art. Clear simple images that all Germans could understand. Productive women, healthy peasants. Reich Culture Chamber.

Rallies - impression.

Grand architecture.

Economy

Hitler's aim was to restore Germany to full employment - this would create a mood of optimism. In 1933, unemployment was 6 million people.

Economic recovery was important for the military might - autarky would avoid the disaster of the blockade.

Defense economy - peace-time economy directed towards the demands of a full-time war.

First period - under Schacht. 1934-37. Increased armament spendings, public investments. Unemployment declined to 1.7 million by 1935. There were still problems in inflation and the balance of payments. Schacht introduced The New Plan in 1934 to deal with problems: the government controlled all spheres of economy, even imports had to be approved. It did not help much in the long-term. Industrial production increased 49.5% by 1935. When there was a crisis in the balance of payments in 1936, Schacht suggested to reduce arms spendings. He was replaced after

this. Second period - under Goering. Period of rearmament. The Four Year Plan was introduced in 1936 - to prepare the economy for war, achieve self-sufficiency in raw materials. Germany was still 1/3 dependent on foreign imports of oil and rubber. Another method of solving this was soon developed - invasions. Austria, Rhineland. 45% of labour in war-related industry. Economy would not be able to support a long war, so new strategy of Blitzkrieg wars was developed. Hitler was preparing for a full war in 1943, and the war in Poland was to be a small one. Third Period - period of war under Speer - 1942-45. He centralized the economy planning by creating a central planning board with 6 000 administrators to manage it. It represented every branch of manufacturing. Major areas of recovery - Blood and Soil ideology was to support agriculture. The Entailed Farm Law tied all peasants to their farms to support production. A lot of big industry was supported in sacrifice of 3 000 small business, even when Jewish, against the ideology.

Hossbach Memorandum - pronounced in 1937.

Ideology

National Socialism - opposed individualism. Idea of Volksgemeinschaft for healthy Aryans. Propaganda was "our sharpest weapon in conquering the state and still is in controlling it". It helped to indoctrinate people with the Nazi Weltanschauung.

Lebensraum in the East.

Religion

Germany was mostly Catholic and Protestant. Hitler wanted a new Aryan Faith based on German paganism. Catholics lost their privileges such as RE in 1933. Protestant churches were tried to be united in the Reich Church, which received little support and the Confessional Church (opposition to the Reich Church) was created. By 1935, the Nazis had little success in coordination German religion.

32% of Germans in the church.

Churches weakened, but not destroyed. They failed morally though, to oppose the regime.

Education

Was a tool for the long-term survival of the regime. Teachers and schools were co-ordinated in 1934 by the Reich. 15% of the timetable was physical education. Syllabi adjusted to fit the ideology, teachers re-trained.

Unis saw a great decrease in numbers. The leaders had realized the adverse effects of their anti-intellectual stress in 1939, and tried to change it, but too late.

Youth Movements - Hitler Youth, Total numbers in 1932 - 108 000. 1938 - 7 000 000. Became compulsory in 1937.

Alternative movements: Edelweiss Pirates - a rebellious group trying to avoid Nazi influence. Some became political and tried to beat up the HJ. A group in Cologne were executed in 1944 as they were helping the Allied prisoners and refugees.

Women

Germany experienced a decline in population growth. 1900 - 2 million live births, 1933 - 1 million live births. Nazi ideology was misogynist, against the emancipation of women. They encouraged KKK - church, kids, kitchen. Mothers received medals for many children. 1933-36 women not allowed to work in law or medicine. Employers discriminated in favour of men. The employment of women fell from 1933-37. 1937 - conscription was introduced, shortage of labour, women were taken back into work. Went up after 1937.

Outsiders

Gypsies, Jews, disabled people. Euthanasia. Law of Prevention of Hereditary Diseased Offspring. Homosexuals as well. The Decree of the Struggle Against the Gypsy Plague.

1938 0 Krystallnacht. Deportation began in 1940.

1942 - extermination facilities were established.

Conclusions

Hitler wanted a social revolution in Germany. War - for half of their rule, the Nazis were at war, so many changes might have happened due to the demands of the war.

Nazi ideology was in many ways reactionary, the actual experience of Nazi rule led to modernization.

The Hitler Myth encouraged the ideology.

Hitler's overall aims in terms of domestic policy?

- * "Volksmeinschaft" (people's community) --> Build a classless society by replacing individual liberty with securing the greater good of the nation

- * Remove non-Nazi influences

- * Shaping the attitudes of the population to support Hitler's aims

- * Focus on foreign policy and military

Methods to achieve these?

- * Hitler put extreme focus on the youth and women of Germany, given that they were to become the strong future patriots of Germany.

Successes: Hitler succeeded given that he managed to impose his ideology onto the people. Also, through a harsh way of rule, Hitler managed to keep receive the support he needed to pursue his foreign interests.

Failures: Despite this, Hitler was only in power for 12 years, 6 of which were spent in war. Essentially, after the end of the Second World War including Hitler's suicide, Germany no longer pursued Nazi

ideology as a way of rule! This suggests that Hitler was not effective enough in his domestic policies to leave an impact on his Reich after his death, as he aspired to do.

Youth:

- * Aims

Indoctrinate with Nazi ideology

Create loyalty and willingness to sacrifice to greater good of nation --> nationalism/anti-individualism

"Separate spheres" --> boys were to be strong fighters --> girls were to bear children

1933 - Government takes over and increases in supporters --> expansion of movement

1936 - Membership and all other youth organizations banned

Camping outdoor activity, fun games --> intimidation and oath to loyalty

Later, greater focus on military drills and Nazi ideology --> separate for boys and girls

Successes:

95% loyal to Hitler

Rapid membership increase after 1933, plus compulsory membership

Brainwashed kids --> students prepared to sacrifice themselves for the Nazi loyalty

Hitler Youth became the dominant monopoly over German's Youth's spare time

Failures:

Many youth managed to escape the "compulsory memberships" and rival groups emerged

Many turned away from Hitler Youth in later 1930s

The Hitler Youth became less successful with more military training and Nazi lectures etc.

Growing opposition to Hitler Youth - rejection of it + non-Nazi ideas

Education:

Nazifying - an attempt to control the teachers

97% of teachers joined the Nazi Teacher's League in 1937

Purge and dismiss unreliable teachers

Politicize the curriculum to reflect

Nazi ideology - control textbooks --> History, Biology, Physical Education (2h per day)

Anti-intellectual, pro-strong/healthy --> future Aryan race

Greater focus on needlework for girls, music and home crafts

Successes:

Control over teachers - 1937

Effective way of spreading Nazism

Failures:

Poor quality of students

Created ignorant individuals who could not think for themselves - very much dependent on Nazi ideology

Women and Social control:

Aims

"Seperate spheres" for men and women - whereas men were expected to work and fight for the Reich, women were expected to work and fight for the family

The attitudes towards women was summarised by the slogan Kinder, Kirche, Kuche (Children, Church, Kitchen)

The policy had the support of churches traditional rural groups, but ran contrary to ideas of female emancipation - would have been given the vote in and got careers in the Weimar period

Why did Hitler have these policies?

Ideological - Peasant-based Volksgemeinschaftinvovled the rejection of "modern" and "Bolshevik" ideas about female emancipation

Pragmatic - Given the steady birth rate decline in Germany, Hitler considered it essential for the continued economic growth of the Reich, as he planned to conquer andpopulate lands in the east

What did Hitler do?

- * Reduced the amount of women in employment - Married women were excluded from the civil service and other professions. Employers were encouraged to employ men in favour of women. The numbers of women allowed into university was restricted.

- * Increased the amount of marriages and births - Divorce was made easier for childless couples. Aryan women were offered an interest free marriage loan; the amount to be repaid fell by a quarter with each child loan - only granted to women who agreed to stay out of work

- * Generous welfare payments for mothers

- * Motherhood skills were taught by the "Women's Enterprise" (DFW)

- * Medals ("Honour Cross of the German Mother") - any women who had more than 8 children received a gold medal from Hitler personally

* Abortion was restricted and the use of birth control for Aryans was condemned.

* Increased the quality of births - 1933 Sterilisation law was passed against all those with a hereditary disease/mental health problems (inc. alcoholism/feeble-mindedness)

* 320,000 people sterilised by the Nazi 1933 - 1945

Racial policies:

The Nazis believed -->

1. The blonde-haired, blue-eyed Nordic Germans (or Aryans) were a Volk, or a race.
2. They were the master race. All the other, inferior, races were arranged in a hierarchy beneath them.
3. Near the bottom of this hierarchy came black peoples, and beneath them 'non-people' such as gypsies and Jews.
4. It was their duty to keep the German race 'pure' by having children only with fellow Aryans and restricting what other races could do, especially with Jews.
5. It was their destiny to conquer the lands of inferior races, such as the Slavs to the east, and use them to provide resources and living space for the master race.

The persecution of minority groups

The Nazis persecuted undesirable minority groups in Germany, which consisted of:

1. Homosexuals - sent to concentration camps
2. Gypsies - sent to concentration camps, shot or gassed
3. The mentally ill - sent to concentration camps

The Euthanasia Programme in 1939

Euthanasia means a quiet and easy death. Hitler introduced this programme to kill people with mental or physical disabilities who the Nazis judged to lead worthless lives at the expense of the State. 5000 children were killed by starvation or lethal injections. 71,000 adults were killed by injections or gassing. In 1941, Hitler stopped the programme in the face of protests started by the Catholics.

The persecution of Jews

Through the use of propaganda, Hitler blamed the Jews for:

1. Germany's defeat in 1918
2. The inflation of 1923
3. The economic collapse of 1929-1932
4. In schools children were taught to hate Jews, and textbooks put across anti-semitic ideas.

5. Nazi-controlled newspapers and magazines bombarded adults with anti-semitic articles and cartoons.

Successes:

These policies can be seen as successful given that Hitler managed to take control over society by imposing his ideology onto the everyday lives of ordinary Germans. This is proven by the fact that Hitler

Failures:

Overall evaluation of Hitler's domestic policy: was any revolutionary change made, or it was it all just random, improvised and reactionary?

Before Hitler had come to power, Germany was in a serious economic crisis: Germany nearly bankrupted in 1919 because of the cost of the war, the situation in Germany got worse when Germany tried to pay war reparations, the Ruhr was occupied by France in order to grab goods from the factories. The value of the mark was then falling fast. The financial catastrophe resulted in bad effects to the working classes. The Dawes Plan improved the economic situation in Germany by providing a loan of 40 million pounds from the USA to pay the reparations. In October 1929 the Young Plan was agreed. The Young Plan condensed the war reparations from 6600 million pounds to 2000 million pounds. Hitler and the Nazi party presented an attractive substitute when the republic was hopeless. The prosperities of the Nazi party were related to the economic situation: as the economy was becoming more unstable, the Nazis were winning more seats in the Reichstag. The Nazis presented domestic unity, success and full employment by eliminating Marxists, Jesuits, Freemasons and Jews which they recognized as the real causes of the troubles that Germany suffered. The Nazis promised to form Germany into a prodigious power again. For the young people that were unemployed the Nazis private army was attractive. Hitler had astonishing political capabilities. The people were overwhelmed by the outstanding difference amongst the administration of the Weimar Republic and the Nazi Party. When Hitler then came to power he followed a policy known as the Gleichschaltung which means forcible co-ordination. The Gleichschaltung turned Germany into a fascist state. By using a large police force and the Gestapo, the notorious State Secret Police the government attempted to control as many aspects of life as imaginable. Any way of criticizing or clashing with the government became very risky. The key features of the Nazi fascist public were: Germany became a one-party state since all the political parties were forbidden except the National Socialists, all marked as the 'enemies of the state' were removed, trades unions were put to an end, the teaching method was carefully organized so that children could be taught with Nazi views, since the Nazis were worried that the birth rate was decreasing 'pure Aryans' and healthy families were encouraged to have more kids, Joseph Goebbels was the Minister of Propaganda which controlled all communications and the media, the economic situation of the country was carefully structured, religion was controlled by the government, Germany was considered a police government, Hitler's anti-Jewish policy was the most horrible the most horrible feature of the Nazi system. /// Hitler somehow retained his popularity with ordinary people. Hitler's arrival in January 1933 caused a great wave of enthusiasm and anticipation, he seemed to be offering action and a great new Germany. Hitler was successful in eliminating unemployment. Care was taken to keep the support of the workers. Wealthy industrialists and businessmen were delighted with the Nazis in spite of the government's interference with their industries. Because of the declared Nazi aim of self-sufficiency in food production the farmers were in a specially favored position in the state. Hitler gained the support of the army, which was crucial if he was to feel secure in power.

Hitler's overall aims in terms of domestic policy were: to build a classless society by replacing individual liberty with securing the greater good of the nation, to remove non-Nazi influences, shaping the attitudes of the population to support Hitler's aims and to focus on foreign policy and military. To achieve this Hitler put extreme focus on the youth and women of Germany, given that they were to become the strong future patriots of Germany. Hitler succeeded given that he managed to impose his ideology onto the people. Also, through a harsh way of rule, Hitler managed to keep receive the support he needed to pursue his foreign interests. Despite this, Hitler was only in power for 12 years, 6 of which were spent in war. Essentially, after the end of the Second World War

including Hitler's suicide, Germany no longer pursued Nazi ideology as a way of rule! This suggests that Hitler was not effective enough in his domestic policies to leave an impact on his Reich after his death, as he aspired to do.